

What is claimed is:

1. A fender formed from a rubber composition, wherein said rubber composition has a rate of change of compressibility  $R_{-30}/R_{23}$  of not more than 1.3 (where  $R_{-30}$  denotes a maximum reaction force at  $-30^{\circ}\text{C}$  as determined by compressive test and  $R_{23}$  denotes a maximum reaction force at  $23^{\circ}\text{C}$  as determined by compressive test) and/or a rate of change of compressibility  $R_{60}/R_{23}$  of more than 0.90 (where  $R_{23}$  denotes the maximum reaction force at  $23^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $R_{60}$  denotes a maximum reaction force at  $60^{\circ}\text{C}$ ).

2. The fender according to claim 1, wherein said rubber composition has the rate of change of compressibility  $R_{-30}/R_{23}$  of not more than 1.3 (where  $R_{-30}$  denotes the maximum reaction force at  $-30^{\circ}\text{C}$  as determined by compressive test and  $R_{23}$  denotes the maximum reaction force at  $23^{\circ}\text{C}$  as determined by compressive test), thus imparting the fender with a sufficient compressive energy absorptivity for functioning as a shock absorber in a low-temperature range.

3. The fender according to claim 2, wherein said rubber composition has:

(i) a rate of change of rigidity modulus  $G_{-30}/G_{23} < 1.38$  and  $\tan\delta < 0.07$  as determined by dynamic shearing test (where

$G_{-30}$  and  $G_{23}$  denote dynamic moduli of rigidity at  $-30^{\circ}\text{C}$  and at  $23^{\circ}\text{C}$ , respectively, as measured under the conditions of a frequency at 0.3Hz and a displacement of 2.5mm); and

- 5 (ii) a rate of change of elasticity modulus  $E^*_{-30}/E^*_{23} < 2.3$  and  $\tan\delta < 0.10$  as determined by dynamic tensile test (where  $E^*_{-30}$  and  $E^*_{23}$  denote dynamic moduli of elasticity in tension at  $-30^{\circ}\text{C}$  and at  $23^{\circ}\text{C}$ , respectively, as measured under the conditions of a frequency at 10Hz and a  
10 displacement of  $50\mu\text{m}$ ).

4. The fender according to claim 1, wherein said rubber composition has the rate of change of compressibility  $R_{60}/R_{23}$  of more than 0.90 (where  $R_{23}$  denotes the maximum  
15 reaction force at  $23^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $R_{60}$  denotes the maximum reaction force at  $60^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), thus imparting the fender with a sufficient compressive energy absorptivity for functioning as a shock absorber in a high-temperature range.

- 20 5. The fender according to claim 4, wherein said rubber composition has:

- (i) a rate of change of rigidity modulus  $G_{60}/G_{23} > 0.9$  and  $\tan\delta < 0.11$  as determined by dynamic shearing test (where  $G_{60}$  and  $G_{23}$  denote dynamic moduli of rigidity at  $60^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  
25 at  $23^{\circ}\text{C}$ , respectively, as measured under the conditions

of a frequency at 0.3Hz and a displacement of 2.5mm);  
and

(ii) a rate of change of elasticity modulus  $E_{60}^*/E_{23}^* > 0.7$   
and  $\tan \delta < 0.14$  as determined by dynamic tensile test (where  
5  $E_{60}^*$  and  $E_{23}^*$  denote dynamic moduli of elasticity in tension  
at 60°C and at 23°C, respectively, as measured under the  
conditions of a frequency at 10Hz and a displacement of  
50μm).

10 6. The fender according to claim 1, wherein said rubber  
composition contains 20 to 80 parts by weight of carbon  
black and 0 to 20 parts by weight of softener based on  
100 parts by weight of base rubber material.

15 7. A method for producing a fender from a rubber  
composition as a base material, wherein the rubber  
composition is prepared as an elastic base material and  
has a rate of change of compressibility  $R_{-30}/R_{23}$  of not  
more than 1.3 (where  $R_{-30}$  denotes a maximum reaction force  
20 at -30°C as determined by compressive test and  $R_{23}$  denotes  
a maximum reaction force at 23°C as determined by  
compressive test) and a rate of change of compressibility  
 $R_{60}/R_{23}$  of more than 0.90 (where  $R_{23}$  denotes the maximum  
reaction force at 23°C and  $R_{60}$  denotes a maximum reaction  
25 force at 60°C).